

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 07754 310543Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 /057 W  
-----124240 310544Z /13  
R 310421Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4321

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7754

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR IR  
SUBJ: BAHERI DEBUTS AS RESTAKHIZ SECY GEN

REF: TEHRAN A-136

BEGIN UNCLAS

1. RECENT NEWS AND EDITORIAL COVERAGE OF ACTIVITIES OF MOHAMMAD BAHERI ALREADY POINT TO HIS MORE ACTIVE ROLE AS SECY GEN OF RASTAKHIZ PARTY. ON AUG 27 IN HIS FIRST MAJOR PUBLIC STATEMENT AS SYG TO GROUP OF LEGISLATORS AND CABINET AND PARTY MEMBERS, BAHERI ELUCIDATED RPPI GOALS. HE SAID RPPI ENDS ARE ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL, NOT ADMINISTRATIVE. RPPI RESPONSIBILITIES ARE A. TO SERVE AS "ACCURATE, TURSTWORTHY AND SPEEDY INSTRUMENT" FOR CONVEYING PEROPLE'S NEEDS TO SHAH AND B. "TO COMPREHEND THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF IMPLEMENTING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE REVOLUTION AND OTHER GOVT PROBGRAMS AND TO ACT ON THIS KNOWLEDGE". PARTY MEMBERSHIP MUST BE INCREASED AND PARTY CHAPTERS MUST SERVE AS CENTERS FOR DISCUSSION OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. IRAN'S MAJOR TASKS ARE TO I INDUSTRIALIZE, TO CREATE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY, AND TO ERADICATE CORRUPTION AND PROFITEERING. EDITORIAL REACTION AUG 29 PREDICTABLY APPLAUDED BAHERI'S STATEMENTS.

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2. BAHERI'S NEXT STOP TO GATHER SUPPORT WAS TEHRAN BAZAAR WHERE ON AUG 28 HE PLEDGED PARTY CONSIDERATION OF BAZAAR PROBLEMS AND ENDORSED IMPORTANT ROLE FOR TRADE AND OTHER GUILDS.

3. ON AUG 31 BAHERI ATTENDED MAJLES SESSION AND LATER URGED PROVINCIAL DEPUTIES TO FOSTER PARTY SUPPORT WHEN

THEY RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES THIS WEEK.

END UNCLAS

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4. COMMENT: RELIABLE SOURCE REPORTS THAT BAHERI IS PRIVATELY SKEPTICAL ABOUT VIABILITY OF RPPI BUT REALIZES THAT SHAH IS DETERMINED TO ESTABLISH SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL PARTY BASE HERE. FOR THAT REASON HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO CAMPAIGN VIGOROUSLY FOR RPPI. HE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS AMBITIOUS, ARTICULATE, OPPORTUNISTIC AND LOYAL TO SHAH. IF HE IS SUCCESSFUL IN IGNITING FIRS ON BEHALF OF THE PARTY, HE MAY BECOME MORE OF A POWER THAN WE WOULD INITIALLY HAVE EXPECTED.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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